(c) The Director of Industries and Commerce as Labour Commissioner received representations from the Union on the following points.

(i) Extra ration.
(ii) Increase of basic wages.
(iii) Increase of dearness allowance.
(iv) Bonus.
(v) Medical help.
(vi) Reduction in the pay of the boat crew.
(vii) Increase in the batta paid to the boat crew.
(viii) The lot of the workers in the barges.
(ix) Conditions of the barge crew when the barges are under repair.
(x) Indiscriminate and wanton fining of the workers.
(xi) Discharge of workers without notice on the ground that they demand higher wages.
(xii) Persistent irresponsiveness of the management to the prayers of the workers.

The Government also received a petition from the President of the Union requesting for an adjudication of the dispute between the Company and the Union.

(d) The matter was enquired into. Government could not however take any statutory action as they have no jurisdiction over the Company, which is situated in British Cochin.

(e) Yes.

(f) Government have no jurisdiction.

(g) Yes.

FOOT PATH—CHENNAMANGALAM VILLAGE

695. മിസ്റ്റർ പി. വി. ഐബാസ്റ്റ്യൻ: താഴെ പറയുന്ന ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്ക് ഗവൺമെണ്ട് സദയം മറുപടി പറയുമോ.—

(എ) ചേന്ദമംഗലം വില്ലേജിൽപ്പെട്ട ഗോതുരുത്തിന്റെ പടിഞ്ഞാറെ അറ്റം തുടങ്ങി P. W. D.-ൽ നിന്നും ഫ ഫ ഫ-ൽ ഒരു foot-path നിർമ്മിക്കുവാൻ ആരംഭിച്ച ഉദ്ദേശം പകുതിയോളം ആക്കി പണി നിർത്തിവെക്കുവാൻ പ്രത്യേക വല്ല കാരണങ്ങളുമുണ്ടോ;

(ബി) ഡക്കും പുറവും ഗോതുരുത്തും തമ്മിൽ ഒരു പാലം വഴി ഘടിപ്പിക്കേണ്ട അത്യാവശ്യകത ഗവൺമെണ്ടിന്റെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽപ്പെട്ടിട്ടും ആ പാലത്തിന്റെ പണി തുടങ്ങുവാൻ ഇനിയും താമസം എന്തുകൊണ്ടാണ്?

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. അരവിന്ദാക്ഷമേനോൻ:

(എ) ഗോതുരുത്തിയും ചേന്ദമംഗലവും കൂടി ഘടിപ്പിക്കുന്ന പാലം പണി തീർന്നതിനുശേഷം ഈ റോഡ് പണി തുടങ്ങാമെന്നാണ് റോഡ് ബോർഡ് നിർദ്ദേശം.

(ബി) ഈ പാലത്തിന്റെ പണി ചേന്ദമംഗലം റോർഡ് പണി കഴിഞ്ഞതിന്റെ ശേഷം എടുക്കുന്നതാണ്.

DUST NUISANCE—PUBLIC ROADS

696. Mr. K. Balakrishna Menon *(Cheruthuruthi):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) if they are aware of the dust nuisance created by putting dry mud periodically on the public roads;

(b) if it does not affect the public health;

(c) what measures the Government have adopted to remove this evil?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(a) Slight blinding by gravelling earth does not create excessive dust.

(b) And the public health also will not suffer.

(c) When ordinary clay from the fields is used by contractors the evil is real. Strict orders are being issued to see that unsuitable material is not used.

LABOURERS' QUARTERS—VAZHACHALKUTHU

697. Mr. P. K. Paul *(Chalakkudi):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) are the Government aware of the fact that sanitary conditions are miserably ignored with regard to the labourers' housing quarters (pathies) at Vazhachalkuthu maintained and run by the Government;

(b) did the Sub-Assistant Surgeon in Charge of the dispensary, Anamallais Road Works, Kanjirapilly, represent the fact regarding the insanitary conditions of the "pathies" to the Assistant Engineer the administrative authority;

(c) if so, how many times did he represent the cause with dates of such reports;

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(*d*) where the recommendations carried out by the Assistant Engineer, if so, when, if not, why;

(*e*) what are the facilities for the conveyance of sick labourers to and from the base dispensary where they are treated;

(*f*) is an ambulance van placed at the disposal of the Sub-assistant Surgeon for easy access to the patients and back to the base;

(*g*) if not, why;

(*h*) were the doctor and his staff supplied with mosquito curtains and other necessary accessories to ward off the attack of malaria;

(*i*) if the answer is in the negative, why were they not supplied yet?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) The sanitary conditions at Vazhachalkuthu are good and have been so always.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) There have been four reports. They are dated 29th Thulam 1120, 23rd Mithunam, 1120, 23rd Mithunam 1120 and 7th Kanni 1121.

(*d*) *Report No. 1, dated 29th Thulam 1120* deals with distribution of quine and the spraying of pyrethum. These are works to be done under the supervision of the Sub-Assistant Surgeon.

Report No. 2, dated 22rd Mithunam 1120. This report deals with some of the construction camps on the road. This report was in the month of Mithunam when there was no incidence of malaria in the area. Some of the camp sites were also at places where it is unnecessary to make such shurb clearances. These are works which the Sub-Assistant Surgeon himself might have got done.

Report No. 3, dated 23rd Mithunam 1120. This deals with the quality of rice supplied. The Director of Food Supplies was written to and it was not then possible to give any special treatment to the labourers of the Anamallais road. Regarding vitamin tables, the doctor was not quite definite and no action was thought to be necessary nor was it possible to take any on that report.

Report No. 4, dated 7th Kanni 1121 deals with sanitary condition of camps. The camps have been put up as per the standards usually adopted in these areas, and no modification was thought to be necessary.

(*e*) Government lorries go to Vazhachal and back every day, and the sick labourers used to be transported in them.

(*f*) No.

(*g*) Please see answer to (*e*)

(*h*) No.

(*i*) They were halting at Pariyaram which is not generally considered as a malarial place

PEST—KOLE CULTIVATION

698. Mr. Paramel Ipe Ipe *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the "punja" or "kole" cultivations of this year within the Kunnamkulam Constituency have been attacked by a severe pest popularly known as "കതകതാ";

(*b*) whether the Government has realised the virulent nature of this pest;

(*c*) how many acres of land have been infected by this pest now;

(*d*) whether Government has made any inquiry or investigation about this pest during this year;

(*e*) whether the Government has made any attempt to find out any preventive measures for this pest;

(*f*) if so, when and what is the preventive measure suggested by the Government?

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The exact area is not known. The infestation was not at all severe.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Yes. The pest is tackled by the following measures. The nature of the measure to be adopted will depend upon the degree and nature of infestation and the environment in which the pest occurs.

(*f*) 1. Flooding, Trenching, Sweeping, letting in of ducks and similar mechanical measures.

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